



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 19.8 Thursday, February 21, 2013

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

The Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission presented a plaque to three daughters honoring the community work of their mother, the late Barbara Moody. From left are daughters Tiffany Moody, April Tucker, and at right Teresa LaPorte. Presenting the plaque at the Feb. 12 Sumpter Township Board meeting were, at center, Trustees Peggy Morgan and Don Swinson.

Sumpter Board ratifies first-ever fire department union contract

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At a special meeting on Feb. 14, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees took three minutes to unanimously ratify the first-ever collective bargaining agreement with the newly organized Michigan Association of Fire Fighters/Sumpter Township.

There are 32 members in the union and they already had ratified the contract.

The board had been informed of the progress on the contract and this was the final step.

Printed versions of the document, with typographical errors corrected and minor language revisions, will be released shortly, said Supervisor Johnny Vawters.

The special meeting was set up at the regular meeting on Feb. 12 and Clerk Clarence Hoffman was absent and excused from both meetings.

Supervisor Vawters said the board had intended to name interim Fire Chief Joe Januszyk as permanent chief at the Feb. 14 meeting, but the item didn't get on the special agenda and so the promotion will be done at the next regular meeting on Feb. 26.

During the Feb. 12 meeting, prior to approving a union contract, a matter related to the fire department was settled.

Martin Kalasz, a Sumpter fire fighter for 40 years, was scheduled for a disciplinary

(continued on page 3)

Sumpter Township 2012 Employee Wages and Costs to Township

Employee	Wages	Benefits	Total Compensation
Elected Officials			
Johnny Vawters	\$21,694.52	\$6,930.49	\$28,625.01
John Morgan	\$19,694.60	\$5,527.44	\$25,222.04
Clarence Hoffman Jr.	\$19,694.60	\$5,329.74	\$25,024.34
William Hamm	\$13,370.33	\$4,988.76	\$18,359.09
Peggy Morgan	\$12,509.18	\$5,568.76	\$18,077.94
Linda Kennedy	\$9,532.17	\$4,494.02	\$14,026.19
Alan Bates	\$8,166.58	\$2,236.42	\$10,403.00
Donald Swinson	\$2,241.47	\$1,366.54	\$3,608.01
Bookkeeper			
James Glahn	\$71,777.45	\$37,493.36	\$109,270.81
Supervisor's Office			
Craig Moody	\$48,714.51	\$31,017.37	\$79,731.88
Denise Komora	\$28,434.58	\$26,311.95	\$54,746.53
Account Clerk			
Roxanne Bardell	\$43,347.55	\$33,645.31	\$76,992.86
Treasurer Dept.			
Karen Armatis	\$54,206.91	\$30,641.25	\$84,848.16
Clerk			
Maria Beaudrie	\$46,425.64	\$29,295.61	\$75,721.25
Esther Hurst	\$54,797.59	\$19,644.85	\$74,442.44
Deborah Bowman	\$1,668.16	\$127.62	\$1,795.78
Senior			
Mary Ann Watson	\$44,051.97	\$30,042.96	\$74,094.93
Building Dept.			
Michele Roman	\$19,657.73	\$1,674.12	\$21,331.85
Jonathan Tackett	\$15,256.01	\$1,167.10	\$16,423.11
Jeffrey Kemp	\$3,091.79	\$236.52	\$3,328.31
Water Dept.			
John Krushlin	\$74,849.96	\$21,148.97	\$95,998.93
Leroy Campbell	\$66,996.22	\$23,755.03	\$90,751.25
Marvin Drews	\$53,041.34	\$19,894.56	\$72,935.90
Sybil Buchanan	\$51,131.78	\$20,710.05	\$71,841.83
Michael Petrowski	\$40,121.26	\$21,314.74	\$61,436.00
Dawn Maynard	\$29,205.50	\$23,625.74	\$52,831.24
Clarence Primm	\$0.00	\$472.68	\$472.68
Board of Review			
Brian Buntine	\$213.75	\$16.36	\$230.11
Jennifer Massel	\$106.88	\$8.18	\$115.06
Dispatch			
Susan Defresne	\$25,877.06	\$14,351.34	\$40,228.40
Jackie Poley	\$18,860.78	\$14,069.32	\$32,930.10
Lisa Pond Wallace	\$16,717.67	\$13,814.48	\$30,532.15
John MacNicol	\$10,420.78	\$1,685.28	\$12,106.06

(continued on page 3)

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter Board

(continued from page 1)

hearing, reportedly for refusing to sign a negative evaluation on him.

Kalasaz usually deals with his issues in public, but this time he was accompanied by MAFF representative John Haase, who said, this time, Kalasz chose to discuss the matter in closed session.

Township attorney Rob Young announced that the board members have a memo on the matter from Fire Chief Januszyk.

After 40 minutes behind closed doors, the township board went back into regular session and voted unanimously to accept Kalasz's statement that he intends to retire.

The motion was made by Trustee Peggy Morgan and seconded by Treasurer John Morgan. Township attorney Rob Young spoke for the board before the vote was taken.

He said sometimes in the heat and desire to comply with new regulations and to establish yourself as a modern department, townships reach down, sometimes, and require people to go to training as a price for being paid for what they want to do.

He said he didn't know if this was good or bad.

He said there are changes in fire department standards and operating procedures and in the process sometimes you lose sight of the human element.

He said Kalasz has been a Sumpter fire fighter for 40 years and has dedicated himself as a fire fighter and done other positive things in the community.

"Where we're going with training and requirements ... we forget the people who sacrificed for years for no pay ... Unfortunately, times are different..."

Young said Kalasz doesn't want to fight with the board anymore and he would like to retire with no more fighting and no more talking with the attorney.

Young said Kalasz has decided 40 years is enough and that he has dedicated a lifetime.

Young said Kalasz has accepted retirement and there will be a formal ceremony before the board with fire fighters present that will present him with a badge and helmet and other assets.

"At the next board meeting, his service will come to an end," Young said, noting that will probably be on Feb. 26.

In other business at the Feb. 12 meeting, the board:

- Approved the supervisor's appointments of Brian Buntine, Jennifer Massel, and Karen Woodington to the Board of Review for two-year terms;
- Set a public hearing at 6 p.m., Feb. 26

on the Community Development Block Grant budget for 2013-14;

- Approved paying warrants totaling \$861,705.62;

- Found that Vernal Johnson of Energy Independence, who was supposed to do a presentation at the workshop, did not show up;

- Heard Trustee Bill Hamm announce that the ordinance department will be enforcing the blight ordinance. He said first there will be a notice, then a warning, and then a citation;

- Heard Fire Chief Januszyk report department training, including the 13-person class for officers' training, which is 30 hours each. He said besides Sumpter, officers in the Sumpter class come from Detroit, Westland, Garden City, Van Buren, Belleville, and Augusta Township;

- Heard Supervisor Vawters announce the annual Black History Month celebration and potluck meal put on by the Seniors will take place at 2 p.m., Feb. 28, at the Community Center, featuring the entertainment of Gospel Express; and

- Heard Deputy Treasurer Karen Armatis announce that there are two programs through the Wayne County Treasurer's office to help those behind on paying their taxes. She has information for those interested.

Sumpter Twp. man bound over to Circuit Court on sex charge

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Patrick Lloyd Sircey, 39, of Wilmot Street in Sumpter Township was bound over to Circuit Court on Feb. 11 by 34th District Court Judge Brian Oakley.

Sircey waived his preliminary exam after a pre-exam conference, said Sumpter Township Detective John Toth.

Sircey is charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the third degree, a felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

The crime occurred on Dec. 27 and is a crime against an adult female, Det. Toth said, not getting into the details.

Sircey was arrested Feb. 5 and held on \$50,000 bond. Judge Oakley reduced the bond to \$10,000 or 10%, as requested by Sircey's lawyer. The prosecution did not object.

Sircey was due to be arraigned on the evidence at Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit on Feb. 18.

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... At the Independent
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2012 Sumpter Township Wages

(continued from page 1)

Police Dept.

Eric Luke	\$77,562.32	\$41,894.39	\$119,456.71
Patrick Gannon	\$75,389.99	\$41,853.10	\$117,243.09
Christopher McGlynn	\$72,823.63	\$41,503.64	\$114,327.27
Elizabeth Egerer	\$63,850.30	\$38,655.54	\$102,505.84
Danielle Buccellato	\$63,157.79	\$38,484.12	\$101,641.91
James Cayce	\$69,653.12	\$29,468.64	\$99,121.76
John Toth	\$60,463.23	\$38,387.66	\$98,850.89
John Ashby	\$70,741.57	\$26,964.87	\$97,706.44
Jerry Cox Jr.	\$58,890.73	\$38,138.95	\$97,029.68
Philip Jablonski	\$69,883.91	\$25,343.38	\$95,227.29
Malissa Baker-Paulk	\$59,615.74	\$30,062.00	\$89,677.74
Colleen Carefelle	\$57,273.86	\$27,883.78	\$85,157.64
James Pierce	\$63,537.78	\$21,452.41	\$84,990.19
Jewell Leonard	\$46,873.00	\$29,476.77	\$76,349.77
Chaim Kozak	\$42,611.46	\$3,259.76	\$45,871.22
Randy Lynch	\$35,733.55	\$9,660.68	\$45,394.23
Brian Steffani	\$32,024.87	\$2,449.92	\$34,474.79
David McKeon	\$25,620.30	\$1,959.94	\$27,580.24
Michael Czinski	\$11,739.49	\$12,923.77	\$24,663.26
Raymond Byrne	\$173.30	\$12,449.94	\$12,623.24
Lou Ann Hamblin	\$3,469.72	\$265.46	\$3,735.18
Daniel Roulo	\$2,020.68	\$154.59	\$2,175.27

Fire Fighters

Leslie Powell	\$15,241.60	\$442.02	\$15,683.62
Michael Wisniewski	\$11,320.50	\$328.30	\$11,648.80
Jamie Goode	\$11,088.00	\$321.56	\$11,409.56
Joseph Januszyk	\$9,038.84	\$262.14	\$9,300.98
Kyle Simmons	\$7,490.25	\$217.26	\$7,707.51
Collin Lynch	\$6,560.25	\$190.28	\$6,750.53
William Simmons	\$5,488.50	\$159.20	\$5,647.70
Timothy Armstrong	\$5,102.25	\$147.98	\$5,250.23
James Stumpf	\$4,635.75	\$134.46	\$4,770.21
Edward Wisniewski	\$3,988.50	\$115.68	\$4,104.18
Donald Laporte Jr.	\$3,814.50	\$110.66	\$3,925.16
Donald Laporte	\$3,376.50	\$97.92	\$3,474.42
Richard Sliwa	\$3,005.25	\$87.16	\$3,092.41
Richard Brown	\$2,522.50	\$73.16	\$2,595.66
Christopher Scott	\$2,500.50	\$72.52	\$2,573.02
Michael McHenry	\$2,368.50	\$68.68	\$2,437.18
Rodney Wiley	\$1,990.50	\$304.56	\$2,295.06
Shauna Spoonamore	\$1,978.50	\$57.42	\$2,035.92
Scott Spoonamore	\$1,759.50	\$51.08	\$1,810.58
Scott Rhodes	\$1,655.59	\$48.02	\$1,703.61
Anthony Spitznagel	\$1,311.00	\$38.04	\$1,349.04
Martin Kalasz	\$1,071.75	\$31.08	\$1,102.83
Walter Thompson	\$967.50	\$28.08	\$995.58
Jeremy Schrock	\$876.00	\$25.44	\$901.44
Jennifer Scott	\$616.50	\$17.92	\$634.42
Christina Wirts	\$472.50	\$13.70	\$486.20
Dan Gonczy	\$387.00	\$11.22	\$398.22
Gregg Horn	\$243.00	\$7.06	\$250.06
Jason Reeves	\$192.00	\$5.60	\$197.60
Enida Winekoff	\$90.00	\$2.62	\$92.62

Benefits include Fica and may include health care, dental, life insurance, pension, paid holiday and sick days. Fire Fighters receive no benefits

Sumpter Seniors set Black History Celebration

Everybody is invited to the Sumpter Township Senior Citizens annual Black History Celebration at 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 28 in the Sumpter Community Center

Gym, 23501 Sumpter Road.

Guests are asked to make reservations by calling 461-9373 by Feb. 22. A \$3 donation covers food and refreshments.

OPINIONS

Editorial

Taking advantage of our precious lake

Over the last 20 years or so, every planning consultant that ever was hired by the City of Belleville advised it to take better advantage of its lake.

And, that's what the city is trying to do lately – and the process is expanding.

You've heard about the recent plan to seek a state grant for upgrades to Horizon Park to make it more accessible to those in water craft.

Now, Bill Wolters, president of the Central Business Community, has come up with a plan to have a Water Sport Show this July 20 at Horizon Park. It's set in the lull between Strawberry Festival and Taste of Belleville.

On Tuesday, the Belleville City Council approved his project, along with a list of other regular CBC events for the season.

The problem he's having is getting vendors to come and display their products, such as new powerboats, sailboats, kayaks, canoes, etc. Bill said he has found that along I-94 from Telegraph to Zeeb Road there no longer are any jet ski businesses. He's searching.

He's invited a lot of water-loving people to participate and it sounds like a wonderful event. He's talking to Sandy's Marina, DNR, Coast Guard Auxiliary, UM Women and Men rowers, BYC, Water Ski Club, and many more. The event is a gem being polished. It may have entertainment, a beer tent, boat parade, and other fun stuff.

This little town on the lake is getting to be a very busy place in the summer. Bill's event should fit right in and bring crowds.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

I received an email from Vesta Losen, saying she was in London and was mugged and needed me to send her money. I knew where Vesta was since she told me she wouldn't be leading the Keystone Academy school board meeting on Feb. 14. It wasn't London.

The people at Bethany Daycare, where Vesta has an office, said they have been getting lots of calls about Vesta being in trouble in London. She was not in London and she was fine, they told me.

This scam email was at least interesting. It was still an attempt to steal money from anyone wanting to help Vesta. Lots of people know and admire Vesta. I hope no one was scammed.

As several said, "Vesta wouldn't call me for money. She knows I haven't got any."

A successful businessman in Van Buren Township was worried about his daughter who was being harassed by an old boyfriend who wouldn't go away. He tried talking to the boy's parents, but it didn't help.

He wanted some advice before things spun out of control, so he went to the VBT Police Department and asked for Officer Adam Byrd. Officer Byrd often drops by his business and talks with him and he trusted Byrd.

The person in "the bubble" in the police department entry area said Byrd wasn't there. So the man told Officer Ryan Bidwell, who was the only officer there, what his concerns were.

The man said Bidwell was very rude to him and mocked him and so the man left in disgust. He is trying to keep his daughter



from being hurt, or hurting herself, and he just wanted some advice. He thought going to his police department would be a good place to start. He thought since Officer Bidwell was trained as a School Resource Officer that he would have good information to share with parents. Wrong and wrong.

He was very saddened by the way he was treated. He said he still will try to get in touch with Officer Byrd. The man, who I've known for years, is a law-abiding taxpayer with a perfect credit rating and clean record. He carries a CCW. He loves his family.

He said, apparently, this is the way it happens. A man tries to get help from his police. Doesn't get help. Goes off on his own. Something happens and the man ends up in jail.

Kathy Niemann of Edgemont Street said she saw about 70 robins digging in the ground at Edgemont School playground last Thursday. The ground was just brown with birds, she reports.

Kathy said she believes they are coming back from somewhere together because they were in this big flock and the birds kept landing and landing and landing.

Another caller saw a huge, fat, lone robin digging in the dirt on Burtrig Drive on Feb. 13. She said he wasn't fluffed up because it wasn't that cold. He was just big. And,

Elaine Gutierrez saw a robin Monday under a tree next to our office building's parking lot.

At about 10:30 a.m. last Thursday, a big semi was turning from E. Huron River Drive to Main Street at Five Points in the City of Belleville and – you guessed it – hit the traffic signal right in front of the police chief's office window. The truck knocked off the shade from the top walk/stop light.

Do you remember last summer when a semi knocked that whole light down and right into the window of the police chief? Chief Taylor wasn't in his office and the window didn't break, but there is a scratch that remains on the window.

At last Friday's meeting of the Belleville Central Business Community (CBC), Carol Thompson reported on the city's Downtown Development Authority. She was talking about the plans for Horizon Park upgrades. She mentioned that it has been learned that Johnny's on the Lake in Belleville is the only restaurant with water access in the 104-mile route of the Huron River Water Trail. The winding rowing trail starts in Oakland County and goes through Belleville on the way to Lake Erie.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA

INDEPENDENT

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Letters

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To the Editor:

Let's peruse the existing political climate. Some time ago someone convinced the voting establishment that separating the local Belleville library from the Wayne County Library District would be beneficial financially, decision making to fit local needs, etc, etc.

Well, that was an oxymoron in the classical sense! The past years since this debacle have left the public in turmoil, confusion, and utter disgust with the dictatorial position of those in power. Do we NEED a new library or does the board WANT a new library? This is just a random thought that is another example of leading the voting public astray.

More on this subject at a later time.

Now the latest "boondoggle" is the "capture" of voted millage funds for the Detroit Zoo animals and Detroit Institute of Art by local DDA's. This millage was presented, advertised and sold to the voters for the animals and the "free" admissions to the arts. The voters arose to the need and passed this proposal; NOT for the DDA!

The DDAs' lexicon is astounding! I especially like their consistent use of the word "capture". Now, this applies to all other forms of income for the DDAs from other tax revenues. This is an interesting definition: "Capture - an act of catching, or gaining control by force, stratagem, or ... guile." And we also have related words like: "clear, gross, and net, accomplish, achieve, score, accumulate, amass, rack up, catch, take over..." Do these words conjure up an unacceptable image?

And then to have both DDA chairs pontificate about their "legal rights" to capture this money is beyond comprehension! It may be the law, it may

be their interpretation of the law, but as anyone who is or has been acquainted with the law knows one of the basic foundations of law is: "It may be legally correct, but it may not be morally correct!"

The animals cannot speak so as the ASPCA says "We have to be their voice!" The enlightenment of these shenanigans puts a different complexion on our political structure.

Cornell Anton, Jr.
Belleville

Library: Location, location, location

To the Editor:

This is my third letter to the editor about our library. My letter is not meant to be a slap at any committee, group, or person. I just want to express myself and reach as many people as possible.

In my first letter, I talked about enlarging and remodeling our current building. That did not seem to have enough support.

In my second letter, I wrote about using a part of the old high school, the section about where the new water retention reservoir is. As you all know, that did not happen.

With all of that said, do any of you readers out there think it would be advisable to look into building a second floor over the existing library?

It seems the total square footage could be tripled by building over the courtyard, over the entrance, and over the parking lot. I think local artists and students could have fun drawing or sketching such a project.

In closing, it seems to me to be the best location, lower cost than starting anew, and a project most taxpayers would support.

Thank you,
Jim Graham
Belleville

Thank you for bringing our husky puppies home

To the Editor:


I would like to thank the nice family that brought my kids puppies home on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Sincerely,
Husky Owners
Van Buren Township

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More Letters

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To the Editor:

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Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation would also like to thank the community for their continued support at our fundraising events.

Thank you all,
Holly Swinson

Columbia, HRD should be put on resurface list

To the Editor:

Love the paper and the articles.
Random thought: One day I'm hoping and praying that Columbia, East and West Huron River Drive will be resurfaced and smooth in my lifetime.

Have lived in the area for 13 years now and have to travel on those three streets daily multiple times. I think it's about time that they are placed on the resurface schedule. The pot holes are ridiculous along with all of the cracks and vertical bumps.

Regards,
Darryl Butler
Belleville



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Valentine's Day should be all year 'round

To the Editor:

Valentine's Day is not just one time of the year! It is or should be all year 'round. Giving candy and flowers is a special way of saying, "I thought of you and wanted to let you know."

Random acts of kindness given any day of

the year really sends the message that you care about your fellow man -- just a smile instead of a frown may make someone's day who thought there was no hope of having a good day.

Saying thank you to the man who held the door open for you even though you were 12 steps behind him. Patience is a virtue.

Giving your child a special hug just because you love and care about him or her. What an encouraging act you have

performed which may make the child excel further than you may have thought. Encouragement doesn't cost anything but a little time.

So, go out and make someone's day. Smile as you pass their way.

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Obituaries



June Katherine Sykes

JUNE KATHERINE SYKES

(November 29, 1923 - February 15, 2013)

June Katherine Sykes, age 89, of Sumpter Township, MI, passed away Friday, February 15, 2013. She was born November 29, 1923 in Detroit, MI, daughter of the late William and Laura (Ayottet) Cram.

June is survived by six children Sandra Chieffi of Stockbridge, MI, Diane (Richard) Priebe of Belleville, MI, Marlene (Richard) Clark of Gregory, MI, Gerrie Springer of Willis, MI, James (Cathy) Sykes of Belleville, MI, John (Lenore) Sykes of Belleville, MI; two siblings Lorraine Rickertt of St. Clair Shores, MI, and Russell (Carolee) Ebied; 15 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years James Sykes; her parents; her brothers Earl, Billy, Douglas, Wally, Sidney, Keith; and her sister Muriel.

June was a member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church. She enjoyed bingo and game shows. Most of all June loved making memories with her children and grandchildren.

Visitation was Monday, February 18, 2013 from 2 to 8 p.m. with a Rosary at 6 p.m. at the David C. Brown Temporary Viewing Chapel, 1500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI. Closing Prayers were at 9:15 AM Tuesday at the David C. Brown Temporary Viewing Chapel then proceeding for her Funeral service Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 10 a.m. in St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 18858 Huron River Dr., New Boston, MI. Father John Hedges served as Celebrant. Burial followed at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville, MI.

Please sign her on-line guestbook and share a memory for her family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Donald E. Brown

DONALD E. BROWN

(April 19, 1968 - February 13, 2013)

Donald E. Brown, 44, of Bellaire, died peacefully, Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at home. He was born Apr. 19, 1968, in Pontiac to Floyd and Linda (Stevenson) Brown.

Living in northern Michigan for the last 15 years, Don was an avid outdoors man and was known by his friends as the last frontiersman. He loved spending his time hunting, fishing, and trapping in the wilderness. He also enjoyed dog training and gardening. Don was a life member of the NRA, USPSA, Clan Lamont Society of North America and the Chain O' Lakes Sportsman's Club.

He belonged to the Hell's Our Home Motorcycle Club and enjoyed riding his motorcycle whenever he could. Don was also an ordained minister and held certificates of achievement in robotics, computer programming, and electrical engineering. He was also a talented carpenter and woodworker. Before he became ill he enjoyed coaching the youth shotgun league at the Sportman's Club. He was an avid marksman and enjoyed sharing his talent and knowledge with anyone who asked. Don also dabbled in taxidermy in his spare time.

On January 23, 2010 Don married Trina McDuffie who survives. Also surviving are his children Lynsey and Stephanie Brown, Carli Brown; stepson Alex Ott; brothers Haskel (Tammy) Endicott and Morgan Brown; sisters Leslie (Matthew) Osborn, Carolyn (Ron) Gotte, Jennifer (Lonnie) Ingle; mother Linda (Haskel) Endicott; father Floyd (June) Brown; grandparents Betty and Gene Janos; and his beloved dogs.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 23, at 11 a.m. at St. Luke Catholic Church with Fr. James Gardiner officiating, with a luncheon to follow. A wake will be held by the Hell's Our Home Motorcycle Club in Rapid City after the luncheon. All are welcome. Memorial contributions can be made to Chain O' Lakes Sportsman Club, PO BOX 765, Bellaire, Michigan, 49615.

Arrangements have been handled by the Bellaire Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com.

MICHAEL E. RADECKI

(February 15, 1948 - February 16, 2013)

Michael E. Radecki, 65, of Belleville, passed away on February 16, 2013. Michael was born February 15, 1948 in Detroit, MI. He was the son of the late Edward M. Radecki and Lucille L. (Bladyko) Radecki.

Mike was a member of the Knights of Columbus of St. Stephen's in New Boston and an active member of St. Anthony's Parish in Belleville. Mike enjoyed walking, watching football, reading the newspaper and cutting out pertinent articles for members of his family. He also enjoyed volunteering his time at the Belleville Strawberry Festival and also at the St. Stephen's Festival. Mike loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents. To cherish his memory he leaves his wife Cathy Jean (McCaig) Radecki; two sons Steven M. Radecki and David A. Radecki; one daughter Karen (DeeMiss) Radwood; three brothers Paul (Paula) Radecki, Patrick (Amy) Radecki, and David (Maria) Radecki; and two grandchildren Dareck and Sierra.

Friends gathered from 4 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at Crane Funeral Home, 36885 Goddard Rd., Romulus, MI 48174, (734) 941-9200. The memorial service was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday with Father Thomas H. Cusick of St. Anthony's Parish officiating.

Those who wish may donate to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Online guests may leave condolences, share a photo, or light a memorial candle by visiting www.cranefuneralhome.net.

NELLIE (ANGELINE) KENDZIERSKI-CHAPLIN-CZAPLINSKI-PANEK

Nellie (Angeline) Kendzierski-Chaplin-Czaplinski-Panek, 94, passed away on February 13, 2013.

Beloved wife of the late John Chaplin and Frank Kendzierski. Survived by her loving children Barbara (Frederick) Levantrosser, Raymond (Terri) Chaplin and Lynette Chaplin; granddaughters Laura (Mark) Lauer, Jessica (Brent) Burnham, Debra Levantrosser, Jessica Chaplin, Mary Chaplin; and great-grandsons Andrew and Christopher Burnham. Preceded in death by her sisters Stella, Mary and Dorothy and brother Frank.

Nellie was a member of the Polka Boosters of America and the Red Hatters. A Memorial Mass for Mrs. Kendzierski was held on Saturday, February 16, 2013 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville. Arrangements were entrusted to Higginson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville, MI. (734) 697-9400. www.hnfhhome.com

**More
Obituaries
on
page 8**

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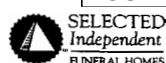
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Obituaries



Margaret Jean Walters

MARGARET JEAN 'M.J.' WALTERS

(September 5, 1939 - February 17, 2013)

Margaret Jean "M.J." Walters, age 73, a life-long Belleville-area resident, passed away on Sunday, February 17, 2013 at Cedar Woods Assisted Living, Van Buren Township, MI. M.J. was born in Belleville on September 5, 1939 to the late Clayton and Mary (Agge) Walters.

M.J. is survived by 3 nieces Mary Ann (Michael) Chames, Marilyn (Daniel) O'Neill and Carolyn (James) Kosiba and 1 nephew Donald Walters; also many great-nieces and nephews Nicholas, Christopher & Matthew Chames, Kristie, Renee, Nicole & Tommy O'Neill, Konrad & Clayton Walters and James & Carrie Kosiba. Also survived by 2 step-brothers Robert (Pat) Millard and Ritchey (Jan) Millard, both of Iberia, MO, a sister-in-law Elsie Walters and Aunt Kathryn Niga. She was preceded in death by her step-mother, Harriet Walters and 1 brother, Donald.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Odd Fellows-Rebekaahs, Eastern Star and loved to knit and bake. She will always be remembered for her delicious baked goods, that she would make and send to her many friends and family, along with a card for many special occasions! She was very proud of her work as a Library Secretary at Belleville High School for 38 loyal years.

Visitation will be on Friday from 2-8 PM at David C. Brown Viewing Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, Michigan, with a funeral service on Saturday, February 23, 2013 at 11:00 AM, with Pastor Gordon Moore officiating. Interment will follow in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Belleville High School Library Fund and would be appreciated. Please sign M.J.'s on-line guestbook and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

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Gerald G. Miller



GERALD G. MILLER

(May 29, 1924 - February 17, 2013)

Gerald G. Miller, a 55-year resident of Belleville, passed away on February 17, 2013, in Hillsborough, New Jersey. He was 88 years old.

Gerald was born on May 29, 1924, in Detroit, Michigan, the only child of Harold and Ruth Miller. He enrolled at Albion College at age 18 but interrupted his studies a year later to join the Army and serve his country in World War II. While attending a USO dance at Fort Dix, New Jersey, he met his future wife, Helen, whom he married on June 26, 1948. Gerald was discharged from the Army in 1946, having served overseas in the Pacific Theater, and continued his education, earning his degree in dentistry at the University of Michigan in 1951.

Gerald's cheerful humor and gentle touch served him well practicing dentistry in Belleville for 40 years. The technical skills he displayed at the office carried over to his home life where he was a master craftsman and do-it-yourselfer, undertaking projects that included designing and building several boats. An avid fisherman and boater, Gerald was happiest fishing in Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair on his cabin cruiser and sailing on Belleville Lake. As a long time member and past president of the local Kiwanis Club, Gerald cherished the camaraderie of working with other members of the community on numerous service projects. He treasured his family, his friends, a good book and the simple joys of life.

He is survived by his son Jeffrey (Justine Kent) Miller of Skillman, New Jersey, his daughter Pamela (Brian) Newhouse of Los Angeles, California, and four grandchildren, Nolan and Chase Miller and Brent and Lauren Newhouse. Gerald was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 60 years, Helen.

Join us in remembering Gerald on Saturday, February 23, 2013, at the First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street, Belleville, where Gerald was a member for many years. A visiting hour at 10:00 a.m. will be followed by an 11:00 a.m. funeral service. Pastor Jim Walker will officiate. Arrangements by David C. Brown Viewing Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI.

BONNIE JEWELL GALLOWAY

(August 1, 1916 - February 14, 2013)

Bonnie Jewell Galloway, age 96, of Belleville passed away February 14, 2013. She was born August 1, 1916.

She is survived by her sons Raymond Galloway and James (Sandy) Galloway; her daughter Geree Harry; grandchildren Herbert Green, David Green, Patrice Hanson, Jeff Green, Denise McCammon, Cindy Gibson, Tina Cobb, Raymond Galloway, Brian Galloway, Aaron Galloway, Mark Harry, Melissa Harry, Kevin Harry, Keith Harry, Kenneth Harry, Lisa Anderson, James Galloway, Tim Galloway, and Brian Galloway; 37 great-grandchildren; and 18 great-great-grandchildren.

Her funeral was at East Lawn Memorial Park, 4997 Memorial Blvd., Kingsport, TN 37664.

RAYMOND C. WEBER

(December 1, 1924 - January 28, 2013)

Raymond C. Weber, 88, died January 28, 2013 in Royal, Arkansas. A memorial service will be scheduled in the future.

Mr. Weber was a former member of the Belleville Rotary Club and had a business in excavating and construction in the Belleville area. He lived on the expressway for a while and then built himself a home on Bemis Road. When he compared his \$3,000 annual taxes locally with the \$367 in taxes he would have to pay in Arkansas, he moved.

Mr. Weber was a talented artist in oil painting. After he moved to Arkansas he started building radio-controlled aircraft, making everything from scratch. His largest plane had a 6' wingspan. He belonged to the Radio Control Club in Royal, Arkansas.

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Belleville businessmen bring their concerns to Planning Commission

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Three Belleville businessmen attended the Feb. 14 meeting of the city Planning Commission to express their deep concerns about the Downtown Overlay District rules that affect them in a negative way.

Present were former Mayor Glenn Silvenis, owner of a real estate firm on Main Street; Gary Snarski, owner of another real estate firm in a historic building that has been upgraded at great expense on Main Street; and Bob Stoner, who owns an office building in the former movie theater on Main.

Silvenis asked if the planning commission had done an economic impact study before putting in place the ordinance that limits office space in favor of retail.

While the offices now in place are grandfathered in, if someone wants to sell an office building, the new owner would have to put in retail on the ground floor. This ordinance has been in place since the summer of 2010.

Silvenis said, if the Deering Agency, for

example, wished to sell its building to another insurance company, it would be prohibited.

Silvenis was told by the planning consultant that the building could be sold for the same use.

"If it's vacant for 90 days, you can't," said DPW Director/Building Official Keith Boc, adding the planning commission is working at updating the ordinance and that provision could be changed.

Silvenis said the businesses never got proper notification on the change and, "I knew nothing about it."

Planning Commission chairman Steve Jones said the ordinance changes were published as required by law.

"You're trying to legislate demand. You're not doing that," Silvenis said.

Jones said it's not the planning commission's purview to see what businesses are trying to come in. He said the planning commission and city council are "totally different" than they were when the ordinance was enacted.

Jill Bahm of Birchler Arroyo said the planning commission is studying the

downtown to determine the kinds of uses to contribute to a vibrant downtown. She said they want it walkable, with people going from shop to shop.

She said they are talking about it and coming up with solutions to mix up the uses, liven up the downtown, and make the community vibrant again, with fewer offices and more retail.

"I just don't understand it," Silvenis said. "I was going to be a city planner, but changed my major," he said explaining that he had gained knowledge of the field.

He said the government is taking the lead in putting businesses out of the community. He asked them if they wanted everyone to go to Van Buren Township? If the Deering building is empty for 90 days it can't sell to another insurance agency, he stated.

"We're trying to alleviate the situation ... that took place three years ago," said Commissioner Michael Renaud.

"Can we go back to the way it was?" asked Stoner. "I have the Professional Building, with all offices."

"You were already non-conforming when you bought it," Boc said, noting it should be in office zoning.

"It was a theater," Silvenis said.

Snarski said limiting the office space to a percentage of the downtown, which is being proposed, doesn't make sense to him.

"We all want retail," Snarski said, adding that he and Silvenis, as realtors, are trying to work with their clients.

He said Dr. Robbe's building is zoned retail and has been vacant for more than 90 days with offices in back.

"What does he do?" Snarski asked. "If it can only be sold for retail, what does it do for people who own the building?"

"You want retail, but you don't want to affect your business?" Jones said to Snarski. "I just want clarification."

Snarski took offense to Jones' comment, saying if Bob Stoner wants to sell his building, with all offices, what does that do?

"It's not about Gary," he stated.

Jones cut off his statement, saying some houses have been changed into businesses

and they have to figure out how to make adjustments.

He said Stoner's building could possibly be office space, but as a city they have to come up with how they want the downtown to look.

"We could say, it's hard out, do what you want," Jones said, adding in the future you couldn't put people out. He said they want to make a walkable downtown and they are trying to make a logical mix of the whole downtown.

Jones said they could lose in the long term and they can't let it all be office space.

"When you made a comment to me, I take offense," Snarski said to Jones, noting Jones just said it again.

"I apologize if I misunderstood you," Jones said to Snarski.

Boc suggested they could put a limit of 8% of professional offices allowed and once that is surpassed, no more. He said they could keep a file on them. He said some buildings have no window frontage and are not designed for retail.

Commissioner Michael Hawkins, who voted against the ordinance in 2010, said there is so much room for more development on Main Street that he would rather restrict what's being built than what's already built.

He referred to the photos of the downtown area taken by Bahm and displayed on the walls in long displays showing a block at a time.

Bahm said her figures show that office and services are currently 22%, plus medical offices makes 36%. Retail, barber and personal services is 16% -- about half.

After more discussion, Silvenis asked if one of Stoner's tenants moved out, can he rent it to another tenant?

Boc said he can't expand the footprint of the building, to discourage the growth of a non-conforming use. Boc said he really wouldn't know if one tenant was moving out and another moving in.

Silvenis said the planners talk about retail space, but they should consider that with amazon.com and eBay, a lot of purchases are made on line.



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Mullen takes over as interim director of VBT Developmental Services

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Terry Carroll, Van Buren Township Director of Planning and Economic Development, left township employment on Friday, Feb. 8, and on Monday, Feb. 11, an interim director took over.

Arthur F. Mullen has stepped into the temporary capacity in that department.

On Feb. 11, VBT Supervisor Linda Combs issued the following statement:

"With the departure of Terry Carroll as Director of Planning and Economic Development, this township department requires leadership requiring a notable demand for public service.

"While it may take several months to find the right person to fill this important position, it is my recommendation the Board of Trustees considers entering into an agreement for these services in a temporary or interim capacity with Mr. Arthur F. Mullen.

"Mr. Mullen has a significant background in matters pertaining to township government and planning and economic development.

"Both a former city planner for Detroit and

Executive Director for the Mount Clemens Downtown Development Authority, he has prior experience in managing staff, communicating with developers and conducting development finance work, including Community Development Block Grant projects.

"Further, Mr. Mullen also possesses a graduate degree, and his past involvement includes serving as a Board member on the Michigan Downtown Association (MDA). He is also certified with the American Institute of Certified Planners."

Terry Carroll

In January 2011, the VBT Board of Trustees approved a proposal to have planning consultants McKenna & Associates provide planning and economic development services until someone was hired to take the place of Dan Swallow, who resigned his director's position to take a similar job with the City of Monroe.

Carroll, 60 at the time, was a contract employee through McKenna, which made him available for the interim position, with support from McKenna, after former Director Swallow left.

After a few months, Supervisor at the time Paul White recommended the hiring of Carroll for the director's position and at the April 5, 2011 township meeting the board voted unanimously to follow White's recommendation.

White said he advertised for the position

for 30 days through the Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Township Association, Michigan Association of Planning, and the township web site. He said he received more than 25 responses and after reviewing them, chose Carroll.

Currently, VBT is advertising for proposals for individuals or firms to provide services related to electrical, mechanical and plumbing inspection and plan review. Deadline is March 15.

UPDATE: On Tuesday, the VBT Board of Trustees pulled approval of Mullen's appointment from its agenda for more information.

Birthday

Feb. 24 – Marcella Henderson

Clarification:

Students were on Snow Day

On page four in last week's *Independent* we informed our readers that there were no cameras present to record the last School Board meeting. We have been advised that the students, who will be running the cameras, couldn't be present because that day, Feb. 11, had been declared a "Snow Day."

We have also been advised that the school district is working on a way to cablecast the meetings and, "It's not as easy as just turning a switch."

It's been several years since a school board meeting was cablecast on Cable Channel 19, the district's educational channel.

Rosemary K. Otzman, editor



Mullen

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Judy Dapprich took this picture on Feb. 12 from her deck on Potter Drive overlooking Belleville Lake in the City of Belleville. The eagle appears to be a youngster of four years, or so. Judy took pictures of two eagles the previous day, but this one was alone eating his lunch. She saw him swoop from the sky by the Moose Lodge. Judy got a new camera and so she has taken a photography class for seniors at September Days. She also goes to gatherings for bird watchers.

Museum seeks vintage Boy, Girl Scout apparel, badges, books, pictures for exhibit in May

The Belleville Area Museum and Archives is looking for vintage Boy and Girl Scout apparel, badges, books, pictures, and more, for a special exhibit coming this May.

Both organizations have celebrated milestone 100-year anniversaries and the museum would like to recognize the impact they have had on area youth, said Museum

Director Katie Dallos.

The museum is located at 405 Main Street in downtown Belleville and is open 3-7 p.m. on Tuesdays and noon to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays.

For more information, contact the Belleville Area Museum by phone at 734-697-1944 or email: kdallos@provide.net

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Belleville City Council approves appointment of Copsey to DDA seat

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Brian Copsey, owner of the Bayou Grill on Main Street in downtown Belleville, was appointed to a seat on the Belleville Downtown Development Authority with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2016.

Mayor Kerreen Conley's appointment of Copsey was endorsed unanimously by members of the city council at its regular meeting Feb. 4.

Copsey replaces retired police officer Ken Voigt who asked not to be reappointed when his term expired because of his busy personal schedule.

Other mayoral appointments and reappointments approved at Monday's meeting were:

- James Fitch to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, with a term to expire Dec. 31. Fitch also was appointed to a seat on the Parks and Recreation Commission with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2016;
- James Graham to the Board of Review with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2014;
- David C. Brown to the Cemetery Advisory Committee with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2015;
- Michael Hawkins and Mike Renaud reappointed to the Planning Commission with terms to expire Dec. 31, 2015; and

- William Emerson and Michael Hawkins (planning commission representative) to the Zoning Board of Appeals with terms to expire Dec. 31, 2015.

In other business at the Feb. 4 meeting, the council:

- Set a public hearing for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 19, for use of the estimated \$57,000 in the 2013 Community Development Block Grant program. Currently it is proposed to be targeted for senior/disabled services, barrier-free improvements, senior chore services, and program administration. Those with suggestions for use of the funds are asked to contact City Manager Diana Kollmeyer or speak up at the hearing;

- Approved the Bunnies on Main competition for March 25-31, sponsored by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. Councilwoman Kim Tindall, who is on the Bunny Committee, said this will be the last year of the event if they can't get more people to participate. It was suggested she contact school classes and the city's Parks and Recreation Commission who could help or participate;

- Took no action on the list of 2013 events planned by the Central Business Community, since CBC president Bill Wolters did not attend the meeting. This will be put on the Feb. 19 meeting agenda. The events included Flop E. Bunny, March 30; Belleville Boat Show at Horizon Park, tentatively July 20; Taste of Belleville, Aug. 15; and Trick or Treat Halloween downtown on Oct. 31;

- Approved accounts payable of

\$150,419.69 and departmental purchases in excess of \$500: for sand from Farmer Underwood, \$786.99; for S2 grant application by Hennessey, \$1,887; for sewer lining by Hennessey, \$4,646; for DWSD consulting by Hennessey, \$1,628; for test meters from SLC, \$530; and for officer classes from the Sumpter Township Fire Department, \$1,920;

- Directed Boc to check into the Citgo gas station and how it stores its trash. Mike Renaud told the council Citgo has no dumpster and just piles up trash bags until collection day;


- Also asked Boc to produce a schedule for holidays that the city's trash collector observes, so residents will know when to put out their trash;

- Heard Steve Jones report that recently the Fire Auxiliary earned almost \$400 at McDonald's, who gave 15% of sales during their benefit and from those who threw money in the boot outside for the fire department; and

- Went into closed-door session to discuss the status and strategy of pending police union negotiations.

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Van Buren Township ratifies 2-year AFSCME union contract

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A two-year contract with Local 236 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees was unanimously ratified by the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at its regular meeting Feb. 5.

The contract had already been ratified by the AFSCME local, which has 26 members. It runs from Jan. 1, 2013 to Dec. 31, 2014.

There was no discussion on the contract, with Clerk Leon Wright noting that it has been in negotiation for the last year and a

half.

At the board's work study session on Jan. 31, attorney Ethan Vinson was invited to give a list of the significant changes in the contract and he reported the following.

- For health care coverage the employee now will pay 10%, which Vinson called one of the most significant changes.

- There are no wage increases, but there is a \$750 signing bonus for 2012, a \$750 bonus for 2013 and a \$500 bonus payable in 2014.

- There is a change to the Timeliness part of the Grievance and Arbitration procedure. Any grievance at the Step Level 2 not answered within a specified time by the township will be deemed granted. This represents a change in the existing contract in that if it wasn't answered it then would go to the next step. This puts pressure upon the supervisor to respond immediately to the grievance.

- There are changes in bereavement leave, expanding the definition of immediate family to include stepchildren and grandchildren. The new contract also allows one day bereavement leave to attend the funeral of a niece, nephew, and the non-custodial mother or father of a child.

- There is a change in the overtime call-in time for Water and Sewer Department standby employees. The new contract increases the standby holiday rate for the standby employees to be paid at the Sunday rate. The new contract also creates a new Section 6 which creates an 8-hour break between the time an employee leaves after working a minimum of 4 hours overtime within a 24-hour period before returning to work.

- The new contract allows employees to cash out 3 days of their leave days which would be payable the first pay period in November for Christmas shopping. Also all bonuses are payable the first pay in November.

When Treasurer Sharry Budd noted at the work/study session that there was another change that was significant, Vinson was led to explain the changes to annual vacations

and then provided an updated written summary of contract changes to the board the next day.

Vinson wrote: "Under the prior contract, there was a two-tier system for vacations. One applied to employees who were hired prior to Oct. 8, 1986, of which there was one [Kristy Bovitz], and the other applied to employees hired after Oct. 8, 1986, which covered the remainder of the employees.

"Under the old contract, new employees with 6 months to 1 year of seniority would receive a half a day per month.

"Now employees with 6 months to 5 years will receive 1 day per month. Employees with 5 to 10 years seniority would get a day and a half. Previously the day and a half would not kick in until after 7 years.

"Under the new contract, employees with 10-15 years would get 2 days per month, whereas previously employees with 10-15 years would get one and a half days per month and after 15 years two and a half days per month and under the old proposal it was 2 days per month.

"This represents an increase of 6 days per year with employees of 10 years or more."

After the contract was ratified by the board, AFSCME Local 236 president Brenda Kurtz thanked the board for approving their contract.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Feb. 21** – Annual Belleville Area Museum meeting with presentation on Yankee Air Museum, at 7 p.m. Free event for Historical Society members.

- **Thursday, Feb. 21** – The Other Book Group meets at 7 p.m. at different local restaurants. Call the library at 699-3291 for tonight's location. They will be discussing "Quiet: The Power of Introverts" by Susan Cain.

- **Saturday, Feb. 23** – Second-annual Winter Frost Day offers family fun in Romulus from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ice skating

in the rink at the Mary Ann Banks Memorial Park at Five Points in Romulus, ice carving demonstrations, music, games.

- **Monday, Feb. 25** – State Rep. Dian Slavens will meet with constituents from 11 a.m. to noon at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road in Van Buren Township. Then, she will meet with constituents again from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road in Canton.

- **Monday, Feb. 25** – "What if Your Ancestor Invented Something?" and "An Introduction to Polish Research" will be topics discussed at the Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, (734) 464-4645.

- **Thursday, Feb. 28** – Sumpter Township Seniors are holding their annual Black History Celebration at 2 p.m. at the Sumpter Community Center Gym, 23501 Sumpter Rd. RSVP to 461-9373 by Feb. 22. \$3 includes food and refreshments. Potluck. Bring a dish to pass. All welcome.

- **Thursday, Feb. 28** – The African American Book Group will meet at the Belleville Area District Library to discuss "Red Light Wives" by Mary Monroe.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Feb. 25 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

- Tuesday, Feb. 26 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p. Also, VBT Water & Sewer Commission, 7 p.m.

- Wednesday, Feb. 27 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

- Thursday, Feb. 28 – Van Buren Township Cultural Advisory Committee, 11 a.m.

- Monday, March 4 -- Van Buren Township work-study, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, March 5 -- Van Buren Township board meeting, 7:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, March 6 – Van Buren Township Staff Review, 1-4 p.m.

- Monday, March 11 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

- Tuesday, March 12 – VBT September Days Senior Center Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m.

- Wednesday, March 13 – Van Buren Township Cemetery Advisory Committee, 11:30 a.m. Also, VBT Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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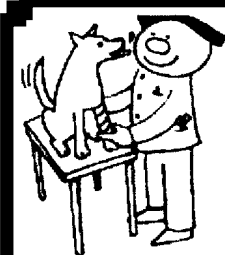
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PET SPA 2, 970 Sumpter Rd., **BELLEVILLE**, Sun., March 17th, 4-6 p.m.
PET RESORT, 50425 Bemis Rd., **BELLEVILLE**, Sun., March 24th, 3-6 p.m.

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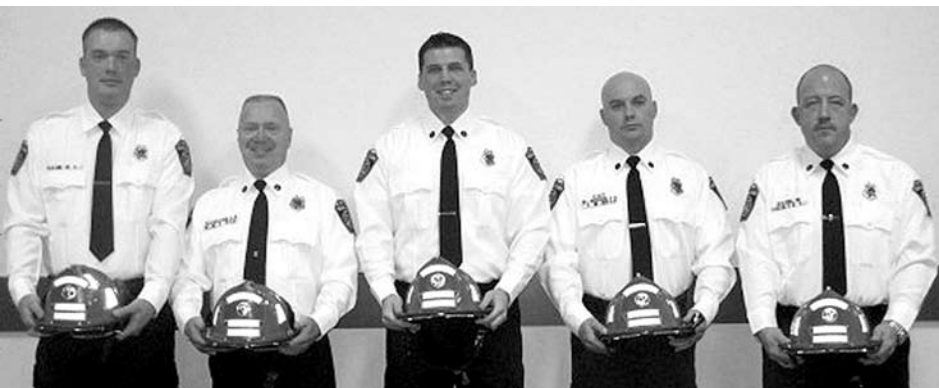
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Photos courtesy Van Buren Township

The first William G. Gage Memorial Award for Fire Service Excellence was presented to Lt. Bruce VanGemert, second from left, by Fire Chief Dan Besson, at left. Attending the presentation at the Feb. 5 VBT Board of Trustees meeting were Lt. Gage's widow Tamara Gage, center, son Aaron Gage and Aaron's wife Stephanie. Lt. Gage died in January, 2011 and Chief Besson announced that Gage's number, #13, has been retired.



New Fire Department lieutenants, chosen after an extensive selection process, were introduced to the VBT Board. They are, from left, Ryan McCormick, L1; Mike Shores, L2; Bruce VanGemert, L3; Curtis Lunsford, L5; and Charles Dewitt, L6. John Henderson, L4, is not pictured. The lieutenants were presented with the "latest and greatest" new helmets, new badges, and keys to their offices.



Certificates of Appreciation for the top 2012 Paid On Call Responses were presented to, from left, John Hayden, 78 responses; David Brouillette, 77 responses; Bruce VanGemert, 76 responses; and Mike Shores, 75 responses.



New probationary fire fighters introduced to the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at its Feb. 5 meeting were, from left, Tim Craiger, Nolan Kennedy, Dallas Oleszkowicz, and Mike Vlademar. They are holding their probationary shields.

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(Next to Sumpter Ace Hardware)

Caring, mature, enthusiastic people needed to work with women who have disabilities. Part time call-ins could lead to full time. Will train the right person. \$7.90/hr. to start with paid for training. Please call (734) 461-2204

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Mark Twain

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

On Wednesday, February, 27th, 2013, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

1997	TOYOTA	4D	4T1BG22KXVU761046	12-33943
1995	SATURN	4D	1G8ZH5286SZ170016	12-34336
1999	BMW	SW	WBADM6331XBY22283	13-157
1994	FORD	4D	1FARP15J6RW244441	13-435
1997	PONTIAC	4D	1G2NE52T6VC817978	13-731
1999	PONTIAC	4D	1G2NE52T1XC558254	13-1517
1995	PONTIAC	4D	1G2HX52KXS4283291	13-1996

At 11:30am, the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2005	PONTIAC	4D	2G2WP522351290347	12-3363A
2002	CHEVROLET	4D	1GNDX03E12D227687	12-32706
2009	DODGE	4D	1B3LC56B39N553253	12-33807

All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright, Van Buren Township Clerk

Published: February 21, 2013

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
2013 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, on the following dates:

March 5, Tuesday
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
(Organizational Meeting)

No Appeals Heard at this Meeting

March 11, Monday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

March 13, Wednesday
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 14, Thursday
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

REVIEW IN PERSON IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Taxpayers/Property Owners may appeal by making an appointment to appear before the Board of Review **OR** by letter appeal (personal appearance is not required).

Letters of appeal must be received on or before MARCH 13, 2013.

Appointments to appeal in person may be scheduled by calling the Assessing Office at 734-699-8946 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by MARCH 12, 2013.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Multiplier</u>
Commercial	50%	1.0000
Industrial	50%	1.0000
Residential	50%	1.0000
Developmental	50%	1.0000
Personal	50%	1.0000

Leon Wright, Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: Thursday, February 14, 2013

Thursday, February 21, 2013

Thursday, February 28, 2013



Sumpter Township Public Notice



SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING NOTICE

The Sumpter Township Board of Review will meet at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 on the following dates and times:

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

TUESDAY MARCH 5, 2013 6:00 P.M.

APPOINTMENTS BEGIN:

MONDAY MARCH 11, 2013 3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

TUESDAY MARCH 12, 2013 9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

THURSDAY MARCH 14, 2013 3:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

Review of assessments is by APPOINTMENT ONLY. To set an appointment, please call 734-461-6201, ext. 2229 or ext. 2236. The burden of proof for a successful appeal is with the Property Owner. Sales reports will be available for review in the Supervisor's office. TENTATIVE RATIOS AND MULTIPLIERS, as determined by the Wayne County Equalization Department are:

CLASS	TENTATIVE RATIO	ESTIMATED MULTIPLIER
Agricultural (101)	49.05%	1.0000
Commercial (201)	49.89%	1.0000
Industrial (301)	49.47%	1.0000
Residential (401)	46.76%	1.0693
Developmental	NC	NC
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Agents for petitioners MUST submit letters of authorization from their clients. **NON-RESIDENTS ONLY MAY APPEAL BY MAIL.** Mail appeals must be received by MARCH 15, 2013. Poverty exemption guidelines and applications are available at the Assessor's Office, pursuant to MCL Sec 211.7u.

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

Publish February 21 and 28 and March 7, 2013



Ask Angela

By Angela Nettro

I am here to answer questions pertaining to buying or selling real estate. Send your questions to "Ask Angela", c/o Belleville-Area Independent, 152 Main Street, Ste. 9, Belleville 48111 or send me an email at nettroandco@comcast.net. I'll answer questions in this column.

Question from Chester in Romulus: I own a home that I refinanced a few years ago and took an additional second mortgage on. I am struggling to make the payments. I am considering a short sale or letting it go back to the bank. I have an opportunity to buy a home on a land contract through a private owner. If I buy this home on a land contract can my bank put a lien on this home I purchase?

Answer: No. The land contract purchased home is a separate home ownership and the deed will not be transferred to you from the present owner until you pay off the entire balanced owed on the land contract.

In the meantime, as another option, you could try to rent your home out to help make the payments on your underlying mortgages. The rental market is in demand now and rental prices have increased, due to so many people looking for a rental, after losing their home.

-- Angela

ANGELA NETTRO/Broker
Angela Nettro & Co.
(734)697-6655
Email: nettroandco@comcast.net

Court Watching:

Gonzalez pleads 'no contest' to felony assault, will get 1 year in jail

By Diane Madigan
Independent Court Reporter

At an appearance on Feb. 1 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit, Kara Gonzalez, 43, of Sumpter Township pleaded "no contest" to the charge of Assault with Intent to Commit Great Bodily Harm Less Than Murder.

Gonzales is now looking at one year in Wayne County Jail followed by two years

of probation.

On Feb. 1 Gonzalez accepted a plea agreement between her attorney Murray Duncan and a Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor. Charges of unarmed robbery and aggravated assault were dismissed with Gonzalez's acceptance of the felony charge that could bring a maximum of 10 years in prison.

Circuit Court Judge Ulysses Boykin asked the reason for the "no contest plea" and Duncan said that was because of a possible civil liability suit.

Upon Gonzalez's agreement to the no-contest plea, the case was laid out by Judge Boykin.

On Sept. 1, 2012, at 244 Creekside Drive in Sumpter Township, Gonzalez assaulted Rebecca Buckingham by kicking and punching her several times in her face while she lay on the ground.

From Gonzalez's attack, Buckingham suffered a fracture to her nose, a broken orbital bone and minor brain trauma. Buckingham was taken to University of Michigan Hospital where she was treated for five days.

According to her victim and witnesses, Gonzalez took Buckingham's wallet that contained \$180. Gonzalez is ordered to pay restitution, have no contact with her victim, continue the orders of her bond, and show up for sentencing at 9 a.m. March 4 in Judge Boykin's courtroom.

Her case was referred to the Probation Department for a pre-sentence report.

Sumpter parents to go to trial on April 11 for son's drowning in pool

By Diane Madigan
Independent Court Reporter

The parents of Oliver Hunt, the 11-month-old child who drowned in a Sumpter Township swimming pool on Aug. 20, returned to court twice last week.

On Wednesday, Feb. 13, Oliver's mother Angelina Mae Perry, 39, and father Ray Thomas Hunt, 34, stood mute on the charge of Homicide - Involuntary Manslaughter before Judge David Groner at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit as they waived reading of the charges. A not-guilty

plea was entered on their behalf.

When Judge Groner asked for an explanation of the manslaughter charge, their court-appointed attorney stated that their child drowned when they were both sleeping off being highly intoxicated.

Both parents could face 10 to 15 years in prison if convicted for "gross negligent failure to supervise", resulting in Oliver's drowning in the swimming pool.

After their trial judge was selected by a blind draw, Perry and Hunt returned to court on Friday, Feb. 15, before Judge Dana Margaret Hathaway for a calendar conference.

Mark Notely, the court-appointed attorney representing Perry, also stood in for Hunt's absent attorney Brian Gagniuk.

Notely and Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Carin Goldfarb agreed on an April 5, 2013 Final Conference and set a trial date for April 11.

Prosecutor Goldfarb said they would have seven witnesses at the trial. Notely, on behalf of Perry and Hunt, said they would have the same seven from the prosecution, plus two more.

VBT resident reports he was robbed during early-morning walk

A Van Buren Township resident told police he was robbed while taking his regular morning walk on Morton Taylor Road.

VBT Police Captain Greg Laurain said the man reported he was walking at 5:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 30, at Morton Taylor and Van Born roads, when he heard a vehicle approach from behind and stop.

The man said an unknown subject came up behind him and stated, "I have a gun. Don't turn around and give me your backpack."

The man said he complied with the orders and then he was kicked in the middle of his back into the ditch. He said the unknown subject and vehicle left northbound on Morton Taylor Road.

Captain Laurain said the victim was unable to provide any suspect or vehicle information.

The man said his backpack was taken and it contained \$20, a breathalyzer costing \$1,100, and his wallet containing \$10.

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes January 8, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Vawters showing present: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, Swinson, & P. Morgan. Also present Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 16 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public comments only on agenda items 5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Hoffman, supported by J. Morgan to approve regular board meeting minutes December 11, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the warrants totaling \$1,633,705.29 and thru the end of January. Roll Call vote: Yes: Vawters, Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, Swinson, & P. Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Water & Sewer: Motion by P. Morgan, Hoffman to approve the water & sewer report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Police: Motion by Hoffman, supported by J. Morgan to approve the police report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Building/Ordinance: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the building/ordinance report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Fire: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the fire report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Treasurer: Motion by Swinson, supported by Bates to approve the treasurer's report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Supervisor:

A. Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to reappoint to the planning commission for 3 years Jane Stalmack, Tyrone Borden & Matt Oddy. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Bates, supported by P. Morgan to approve the supervisor's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Attorney: Motion by Bates, supported by Hamm to receive and file the attorney's report. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Board Response: Motion by J. Morgan, supported by P. Morgan to investigate to get someone who has knowledge on how to utilize the complete capacity of the sign at Willis & Sumpter. Motion carried unanimously.

15. New Business:

A. Workshop presentation by Tonia Cramer regarding resources for workforce.

B. Motion by J. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve to hire Scott Beckington as interim mechanical inspector. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hamm to hire Bernard Zarb as interim plumbing inspector. 1 nay. Motion carried.

D. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the retirement of Police Officer Philip Jablonski effective February 1, 2013 with regrets. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by J. Morgan, supported by P. Morgan to get a plaque for Officer Jablonski. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve to sell the medical building located at 19130 Sumpter to Joe Nasser for \$125,000.00 survey to determine how much property goes with building. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve the 2013 SMART specialized services contract. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Announcements

17. Open Floor

18. Adjournment: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously. Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk
CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on January 8, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.
Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk
Publish: February 21, 2013

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected runs for VBT Police.

Sunday, Feb. 10:
0035 – property damage accident, Martinsville / Bemis
0131 – suspicious situation, Haggerty/Riggs
0145 – suspicious person, Haggerty/Riggs
0205 – disturbance, 41431 S. Bellridge Dr.
1258 – disturbance, Walmart
1522 – property damage accident, 10760 Belleville
1645 – assault & battery, 13615 Arlene Ln.
1817 – fraud, 10743 Oak Ln.
1854 – trespassing, 23 Locust Dr.
1956 – malicious destruction of property, 1176 W. Huron River Dr.
2011 – property damage accident, Elwell/Hull
2059 – assault & battery, 47080 Ayres Ave.
2158 – assault & battery, 6609 Outer Dr.
2200 – property damage accident, 14987 Elwell

Monday, Feb. 11:
0730 – private property accident, 10936 Van Buren
0900 – property damage accident, 10760 Belleville
1236 – assault & battery, 10990 Lighthouse Dr.
1258 – mental, 42901 Tyler Rd.
1317 – suspicious person, Bemis/Sulley
1326 – hospice, 11047 Oaklane
1439 – malicious destruction of property, 9216 Parkwood Dr.
1604 – harassment call, 9878 Wheeler St.
1715 – assault & battery, 50800 Martz Rd.
1719 – fraud, 9903 Jackson St.
1744 – juvenile complaint, Walmart
1850 – missing person, 48721 Denton Rd.
1917 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 45322 Ecorse Rd.
1955 – malicious destruction of property, 15305 Westlake

Tuesday, Feb. 12:
0048 – retail fraud, 10915 Belleville Rd., CVS
0129 – narcotics crime, 46425 Tyler Rd.
0924 – juvenile complaint, 14007 Marina Dr.
1044 – fraud, 7477 Rawsonville Rd., Valero
1044 – malicious destruction of property, 7829 Beck
1333 – property damage accident, 2441 Rawsonville Rd.
1607 – assault & battery, 46070 Lake Villa Dr.
1638 – retail fraud, 6119 Rawsonville Rd., Dollar Store
1649 – harassment call, LKQ
1708 – larceny, 49671 Bog Rd.
1957 – assault & battery, 48430 Denton Rd.
1959 – disorderly conduct, 50778 Michigan Ave.
2223 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton rd.
2226 – property damage accident, Michigan Service Dr./Denton Rd.

Wednesday, Feb. 13:
0500 – property damage accident, 42371 N. I-94 Service Dr.
0513 – personal injury accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.
0646 – hospice, 148 S. Ponderosa Trail
0943 – suspicious person, 10990 Lighthouse Dr.
1109 – fraud, 10591 Oak Lane
1246 – assault & battery, 9027 Parkwood Dr.
1538 – malicious destruction of property, 42059 Zachary St.
1636 – fraud, Walmart
1700 – trespassing, 23 Locust Dr.
1809 – fraud, 14198 Farm Rd.
1954 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
2047 – disturbance, 10820 Belleville Rd.
2059 – shots fired, 48531 Denton Rd.
2212 – assault & battery, 41245 S. Woodbury Dr.

Thursday, Feb. 14:
0655 – malicious destruction of property, 13333 Linda Vista Ct.
0839 – operating while intoxicated, NB Sumpter / Spencer
0919 – sexual assault, 47100 N. I-94 Service Dr.
1111 – PPO violation, 6 Main St.
1154 – juvenile complaint, 43501 S. Timberview
1504 – private property accident, Harbour Blub
1557 – trespassing, 10894 Oak Ln.
1624 – malicious destruction of property, 13529

Christina Ln.
1648 – assault & battery, Applebee’s
1844 – noise complaint, 41600 N. Bellridge Dr.
1852 – trespassing, 23 Locust Dr.
1912 – breaking & entering, 43616 Crowley Ave.
2019 – robbery, 46070 Lake Villa Dr.
2356 – disorderly conduct, 50521 W. Huron River Dr., Pine Creek

Friday, Feb. 15:
0005 – fraud, Walmart
0217 – assault & battery, 47224 North Shore Dr.
0832 – larceny from auto, 45473 Lilac Lane
0954 – larceny, Meijer
1232 – fraud, 2057 Rawsonville Rd.
1515 – fight, 25 Oak Blvd.
1523 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275
1558 – assault & battery, 10915 Belleville
2032 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
2150 – assault & battery, 46145 Village Green Ln.
2306 – malicious destruction of property, 8926 Parkwood Dr.
2318 – malicious destruction of property, 6208 Truman

Saturday, Feb. 16:
0954 – assault & battery, 9790 Andover Dr.
1211 – noise complaint, 48711 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1229 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Rawsonville
1232 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Rawsonville
1231 – personal injury accident, WB I-94 / Rawsonville
1239 – property damage accident, WB I-94/Denton
1256 – property damage accident, 49039 Peninsular Dr.
1312 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Rawsonville
1307 – unattended death, Comfort Inn
1326 – property damage accident, Haggerty / Savage
1322 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Haggerty
1402 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Riggs
1411 – assault & battery, 46111 Village Green
1415 – intimidation threat, 8 Maple Dr.
1630 – property damage accident, EB I-94 / Belleville
1633 – malicious destruction of property, 11275 Oak Lane
1721 – personal injury accident, Martinsville / Burtrig
1857 – disorderly conduct, 10954 Belleville Rd.
1912 – malicious destruction of property, 11042 Van Buren St.
2143 – harassment call, 8837 Parkwood Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 234 traffic stops, 26 of which were on the I-94 or I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 10:
1105 – assist fire dept., 201 Henry St.
1125 – animal complaint, 265 Sumpter Rd.
1310 – assist citizen, Johnny’s
1428 – vehicle lockout, 176 Belle Villa Blvd.
1632 – agency assist, 195 Belle Villa Blvd.
2106 – property check, 400 N. Liberty St.
2234 – civil matter, 745 E. Huron River Dr.

Monday, Feb. 11:
0954 – all other traffic, Belleville/I-94 Service
1016 – background investigation, 6 Main St.
1515 – disorderly conduct, 843 Sumpter Rd.
1649 – vehicle lockout, 279 Church St.
1723 – parking complaint, 150 Carmell St.
1747 – warrant arrest, 36 Carmell St.
2236 – warrant arrest, 106 Carmell St.

Tuesday, Feb. 12:
0006 – suspicious person, 584 Main St.
0536 – property check, South Middle School
0856 – misc. complaint, 437 Victorian Ln.
0935 – welfare check, 238 N. Liberty St.
1040 – breaking & entering, 271 Henry St.
1408 – vehicle lockout, St. Anthony’s
1422 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia Ave., Columbia Court
1623 – follow up, 31 Rose
1645 – assist citizen, 6 Main St.
1723 – assist fire dept., 219 Belle Villa Blvd.

1817 – traffic hazard, 6 Main St.
1917 – traffic hazard, E. Huron River Dr./S. Edgemont
2112 – juvenile complaint, 40 Carmell St.

Wednesday, Feb. 13:
0942 – warrant arrest, Bemis/Savage
1230 – E-911 cellular, 138 Clarence St.
1510 – juvenile complaint, Victoria Commons
1515 – trespassing, Tuscan Manor
1531 – assist citizen, 6 Main St.
1533 – trespassing, Menlo Park
1539 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.
1620 – juvenile complaint, 6 Main St.
1810 – information, 106 Carmell St.
1847 – larceny, 6 Main St.
2028 – intimidation threat, 562 Main St.
2140 – agency assist, 703 Estrada Dr.

Thursday, Feb. 14:
0036 – suspicious vehicle, Village Park
1029 – prisoner transfer, 34th District Court
1132 – PPO violation, 6 Main St.
1215 – disorderly conduct, BHS
1419 – mental, 6 Main St.
1503 – misc. complaint, 6 Main St.
1514 – assist citizen, 30 Loza Lane
1518 – shots fired, 801 Estrada
1600 – E-911 hangup/investigation, 201 Third
1802 – traffic complaint, Main/High
2103 – intrusion alarm, 420 Sumpter Rd.

Friday, Feb. 15:
0724 – E-911 cellular, 382 W. Columbia Ave.
1005 – property damage accident, 5 Points
1057 – suspicious vehicle, Harbour Pointe Dr. / W. Huron River Drive
1244 – civil matter, 472 Robbe St.
1415 – fraud, 375 N. Liberty St.
1701 – assist fire dept., 301 W. Columbia Ave.
2210 – traffic complaint, W. Columbia/High

Saturday, Feb. 16:
0132 – suspicious situation, Main/Roys
0835 – welfare check, 178 N. Liberty St.
1010 – intrusion alarm, 45 S. Edgemont Ave.
1150 – assist fire dept., 27 Menlo Park Dr.
1200 – suspicious person, 302 Estrada Dr.
1345 – agency assist, Comfort Inn
1417 – agency assist, 46111 Village Green
1448 – property damage accident, Main/Fifth
1532 – assist fire dept., 265 Main St.
1634 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 383 Church St.
1636 – assist fire dept., 35 Carmell St.
1755 – harassment call, 221 Henry St.

Also on this week’s log are 112 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 10:
0025 – fight, Sumpter/Harris
0442 – civil dispute, Greenmeadow
0537 – suspicious incident, 13000 bl. Rawsonville
1319 – larceny, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1350 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1422 – alarm, 22000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1439 – shots fired, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1444 – malicious destruction of property, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1632 – shots fired, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1836 – citizen assist, 11000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2204 – fire dept. assist, Birch
2251 – malicious destruction of property, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Monday, Feb. 11:
0033 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0122 – disorderly person, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
0352 – abandoned vehicle, Karr/Willis
1213 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Lane
1302 – fraud, 18000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1331 – missing person, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1410 – follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Harris
1450 – ordinance violation, Timberlane
1559 – alarm, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
1602 – assist other agency, Reed
1747 – civil dispute, Montana
2020 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Sumpter / Judd

Tuesday, Feb. 12:
0425 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
0550 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0745 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1010 – well-being check, Colorado
1054 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1055 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1153 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1155 – larceny, Edgewood
1233 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1329 – shots fired, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1336 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1348 – larceny, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1517 – malicious destruction of property, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1602 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1704 – civil dispute, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.
1747 – larceny, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1809 – warrant arrest, Edgewood
1837 – breaking & entering, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1849 – breaking & entering, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
1947 – threats complaint, Texas
2008 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2012 – breaking & entering, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
2338 – citizen assist, Bemis/Rawsonville

Wednesday, Feb. 13:
0921 – animal complaint, Clay/Martinsville
0927 – juvenile complaint, 45000 bl. Bontekoe
0953 – alarm, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
0956 – civil dispute, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.
1053 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
1306 – 911 hangup, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.
1505 – alarm, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
1811 – civil dispute, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.
1930 – citizen assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
2010 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

Thursday, Feb. 14:
0636 – follow-up investigation, 36000 bl. S. Huron
0834 – death investigation, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0923 – animal complaint, Creekside/Country Club
1156 – citizen assist, Sumpter/Wear
1457 – family trouble, Nevada
1543 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Carleton West
1836 – suspicious person, Judd/Sumpter
2107 – fire dept. assist, Ohio
2152 – alarm, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Friday, Feb. 15:
0056 – animal complaint, Elwell/Judd
0940 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1048 – citizen assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1140 – suspicious vehicle, Texas
1156 – suspicious incident, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1254 – fraud, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Saturday, Feb. 16:
0126 – harassment complaint, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
0217 – runaway juvenile, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
0345 – operating while intoxicated arrest, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1305 – traffic hazard, Sumpter/Clay
1333 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Bemis
1455 – property damage accident, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1530 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Judd
1556 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Judd
2132 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
2241 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week’s log are 23 miscellaneous details, 115 patrol checks, and 70 traffic stops.

Two BB-gun incidents in Van Buren Township

There were two incidents involving BB guns in Van Buren Township recently.

Just after midnight on Feb 4 a 53-year-old VBT resident pointed a pistol BB handgun at a resident then punched him in the face, said Police Lt. Ernie Thornsburry. The man was charged only with assault & battery, Lt. Thornsburry said. The incident occurred at 12692 Hannan Road.

The other incident at 9205 Parkwood on the afternoon of Feb. 6 involved a 13-year-old boy shooting a 12-year-old boy with a BB gun.

The BB was lodged between the boy’s nose and upper lip, Lt. Thornsburry said. The incident was a delayed report and filed after the victim’s mother took her son for medical care. The case is in the hands of the Wayne County Juvenile Prosecutor’s office.

The slightly warmer temps and the fact that spring is a month away is prompting the **Belleville Frosty Boy** on Main Street to open early once again. Owner **Mike Foley** will be offering his delicious ice cream treats inside his heated lobby. Call (734) 699-7188.

Tickets are now on sale for the upcoming concert by **Legacy Five** on Friday, March 8, 7 p.m. at **Romulus High School**. Tickets

Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue

"STEVE"



With a great pup next door name to go with his friendly, happy personality how could you go wrong with **Steve**? He's a 2 year old Border Collie mix jam packed with tons of playful, fun energy to share with all he meets. This happy-go-lucky pup is 100% ready and eager to become a terrific family addition in his new fur-ever home. **Steve** is simply over the moon whenever he gets attention and is always ready to have a good time on whatever play-date you want to take him on whether it's a nice walk, hiking or playing fetch. He'll likely be a great companion for slightly older kids who are able and willing to get out and play with this energetic pup. He can be a little reactive to other dogs he hasn't gotten to know yet so good introductions will be needed when meeting doggie friends. **Steve's** excitable and high energy nature will also benefit from some basic training with agility training being a great extension idea to further challenge his natural working drive. His soft and feathery brown and white coat is perfect for petting and cuddling on cozy nights and gives him quite the handsome look to show off around town. Come meet **Steve** and you're likely to find he's the perfect fun, friendly and lovable friend to share your days with. He's neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. 734-461-9458

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



are \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door with kids half price. Tickets can be purchased online at www.bethanybiblechurch.com or by calling (734) 697-7456. The church is located at 810 East Huron River Drive.

Jacobs Boots & Saddles on Quirk Road, just north of the I-94 North Service Drive in Van Buren Township, sells everything from Western and English saddles, hats and boots, and accessories all at bargain prices. They're open Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Friday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Look for the **Big Red Barn** or call (734) 699-2200.

Lonnie's Auto Repair in the former

location of Sumpter Auto Repair at 5-Points in Belleville has taken ownership of the business and is offering cool deals to introduce themselves to the community. Their coupons from their ad in today's paper feature a **Get to Know Us Special**, saving \$20 off services for the first 200 customers, a **Hurry Spring Brake Sale** starting at \$72.50 per axle, and \$20 off any repairs over \$100. Drive-ins are welcome and appointments can be made by calling (734) 325 7065. They're open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Barnett Roofing and Siding of nearby Canton will take part in the upcoming **Canton Home Improvement Expo** March 2 and 3 at the **Canton Summit Center**. Visit them at **Booth #28**. The family-owned business has been serving Belleville and Southeastern Michigan for over 50 years and holds an A-Plus rating on Angie's List. Barnett serves residential and commercial customers with free estimates

on tear-offs, re-roofs, flat roofs, shingles, gutters, and gutter protection systems. To learn more visit www.barnettroofing.com or call (734) 397-8122.

The *Independent* is giving away free color this spring. Simply advertise in color with us during the month of March and get free color for the four weeks in April. We call it our **Put Color in your Easter** promotion. To learn more, call me at (734) 699-9020.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych with your suggestion at 734-699-9020. There is no charge to be in this column.

Local parents invited to Keystone Academy open house on Thursday

Keystone Academy invites interested parents to attend an enrollment open house beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21.

Parents will have the opportunity to tour the school, ask curriculum questions, and speak with an admissions specialist and Principal Keturah Godfrey.

Keystone Academy, at 47325 Bemis Road in Sumpter Township, is a tuition-free public charter school serving students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

ATTENTION BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT SUBSCRIBERS:

Due to rising postage rates over the past 5 years, we must increase our subscription delivery rates. Starting with the **March 7, 2013** issue of the Belleville Area Independent, the new rates are: In the State of Michigan: **\$30** per year, Out of State: **\$35** per year. Call 734-699-9020 to subscribe or renew your subscription before **March 7, 2013** deadline to get our old rates of **\$25** for in state, **\$30** for out of state.

VISIT US AT THE CANTON HOME IMPROVEMENT EXPO MARCH 2nd & 3rd!

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Please stop by our booth at the Canton Home Improvement Expo (booth #28) which runs Saturday, March 2nd from 9:00-5:00 and Sunday, March 3rd from 11:00-5:00 inside the Canton Summit Center. Planning any home improvement projects?? See us for free estimates. We are a local family owned business with over 50 years of experience. All work is completed by factory trained & credentialed installers. We have an A+ rating on Angie's List!

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\$4.99

11 am - 2 pm

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WEDNESDAY Grilled Chicken Sandwich & Fries

THURSDAY Grilled Ham & Cheese & Fries

FRIDAY Fish Sandwich & Fries

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